



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Oil company representatives surrender to authorities

BATON ROUGE – T&F Oil Company’s Chief Executive Officer Lobdell Percy Brown, III, and Carr Brown, a Field Technician, surrendered to Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality’s Criminal Investigation Division Investigators today on violations of the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

T&F Oil and the Browns, who are brothers, were indicted on Oct. 21 by a Cameron Parish Grand Jury for two willful discharges of oil and chlorides into the waters of the state, along with five additional spills that went unreported from sites located in Little Chenier oilfield. Following the indictment, a warrant was issued for their arrest.

The indictments are the result of an ongoing investigation conducted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality’s Criminal Investigation Division and the Louisiana Environmental Crimes Task Force.

“Any facility found to be conducting business in direct contravention environmental laws will be aggressively prosecuted,” said DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch. “Blatant disregard for environmental and health regulations will not be tolerated. DEQ will continue to work with its partners to preserve and protect human health and the environment in which we live.”

The case is being prosecuted by the Louisiana Attorney General’s office.

Violations can result in a fine of not less than \$5,000, but no more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than three years, with or without hard labor, or both.

The mission of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is to protect the environment and public health. Any persons with knowledge of any spills, releases, odors, fish kills, open burning, waste tires and any other types of environmental incidents may contact DEQ at 225-219-3640 or Toll Free 1-888-763-5424.

An indictment does not constitute guilt in a criminal case and all subjects are presumed innocent.